

c2 a plurality of joints, each joint for coupling one of the plurality of drive arms to a respective one of the double ended members, each joint providing rotation about the drive arm axis, and sliding in the direction of at least one of first and second orthogonal axes perpendicular to the drive arm axis, and

a universal joint connecting the transition arm to the stationary support by two pins to permit pivoting motion about two axes.

75. (Amended) A piston assembly, comprising:

at least two double ended members, each double ended member having first and second elements configured for linear motion along a common axis, at least one of the first and second elements being a piston, and

c3 a transition arm coupled to a stationary support, the transition arm coupled to each of the double ended members by a joint, the joint being positioned between the first and second elements, the joint being configured to move relative to the first and second elements along first and second orthogonal axes, the first and second orthogonal axes being perpendicular to the common axis, the joint defining two opposed flat surfaces for the transfer of load between the first and second elements and the transition arm, and

a universal joint connecting the transition arm to the stationary support by two pins to permit pivoting motion about two axes.

Add claims 83-93.

c4 ~~83.~~ The piston assembly of claim 45 wherein the two pins pass through a stationary element.

84. The piston assembly of claim 45 wherein the two pins form a cross member.

85. The piston assembly of claim 72 wherein the two pins pass through a stationary element.

86. The piston assembly of claim 72 wherein the two pins form a cross member.

87. The piston assembly of claim 75 wherein the two pins pass through a stationary element.

88. The piston assembly of claim 75 wherein the two pins form a cross member.

89. A piston assembly, comprising:

a plurality of double ended members, each double ended member having first and second elements configured for linear motion along a common axis, at least one of the first and second elements being a piston,

a transition arm coupled to each of the double ended members, the transition arm including a plurality of drive arms, each drive arm defining a drive arm axis,

c4 a plurality of joints, each joint for coupling one of the plurality of drive arms to a respective one of the double ended members, each joint providing degrees of freedom in four directions between the transition arm and the respective double ended member, the four degrees of freedom being a) about the drive arm axis, b) about a first joint axis perpendicular to the drive arm axis, c) in the direction of the first joint axis, and d) in the direction of a second joint axis perpendicular to the first joint axis, and

a universal joint connecting the transition arm to a support by two pins to permit pivoting motion about two axes.

90. The piston assembly of claim 89 wherein the two pins pass through a stationary element.

91. The piston assembly of claim 89 wherein the two pins form a cross member.

92. The piston assembly of claim 89 wherein the first and second elements each comprises a piston.

93. The piston assembly of claim 89 wherein the first element comprises a piston and the second element comprises a guided rod.